

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00
EB-08 COME-00 FRB-03 OMB-01 OES-06 DODE-00 DLOS-09
NSC-05 /091 W
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R 130740Z APR 77
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2820

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 USNATO 2121

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EGEN, SH, NATO
SUBJECT: ECONADS: SOVIET FISHING INDUSTRY

REFS.: (A) USNATO 1872; (B) STATE 77050; (C) AC/127-WP/503

1. THE ECONOMICS DIRECTORATE HAS CIRCULATED FOLLOWING
CORRIGENDUM TO THE REPORT ON THE SOVIET FISHING INDUSTRY
(REF C).

2. BEGIN TEXT:

THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS HAVE BEEN SUGGESTED BY THE
NETHERLANDS, UK AND US DELGATIONS AT THE COMMITTEE MEETING
OF 7TH APRIL, 1977.

2. IN THE REPORT, WHEREVER REFERENCE IS MADE TO
"EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONES (EEZ)" OR TO "EEZS", REPLACE BY
"REGULATED FISHING ZONES". (SEE PARAGRAPHS 10, 11, 56, 58, 59,
61, 63, 64, 67, 68 AND FOOTNOTE (1) PAGES 30 AND 32).
PARAGRAH 6, LINE 7
"CAN" SHOULD READ "COULD".
PARAGRAPH 6, LINE 9
DELETE "ERIOUS".
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PARAGRAPH 8
DELETE FOURTH SENTENCE AND REPLACE BY: "IN RECENT
YEARS, DIRECT CONSUMPTION OF FISH AMOUNTED FOR 15PERCENT TO 18
PERCENT OF ANIMAL PROTEIN IN SOVIET DIET."
DELETE FIFTH SENTENCE, AND DELETE FOOTNOTE (1) PAGE 4.
PARAGRAPH 10, LINE 3
DELETE "GRADUAL CHANGE....SOVIET AGRICULTURE)".
PARAGRAPH 20
DELETE LAST SENTENCE.
PARAGRAPH 33, PENULTIMATE LINE

REPLACE " GREAT PART OF" BY "SOME OF".

PARAGRAPH 44

DELETE SECOND SENTENCE AND REPLACE BY: "FISH IS A BASIC COMPONENT OF THE RUSSIAN DIET, IN RECENT YEARS DIRECT CONSUMPTION OF FISH ACCOUNTED FOR 15 PERCENT TO 18 PERCENT OF ANIMAL PROTEIN INTAKE."DELETE FOOTNOTE (1), PAGE 23.

PARAGRAPH 49

LINE 13: DELETE "FINALLY".

ADD AS A LAST SENTENCE: "FINALLY, ANOTHER SOURCE OF DIFFICULTY IS THE FACT THAT A NUMBER OF VESSELS IN THE SOVIET FISHING FLEET ARE EXCLUSIVELY ENGAGED ON ACTIVITIES WHICH HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH FISHING, HOWEVER THEIR TONNAGE IS NOT KNOWN AND PRODUCTIVITY CALCULATIONS HAVE BEEN MADE ON THE BASIS OF PUBLISHED DATA ON THE SOVIET FISHING FLEET. CONSEQUENTLY, THE PERCENTAGES IN TABLE 12 INDICATE A SOMEWHAT LOWER PRODUCTIVITY THAN IS ACTUALLY THE CASE."

PARAGRAPH 51

DELETE SUB-PARAGRAPHS (V) AND (VI), AND FOOTNOTES (2) AND (3), PAGE 27.

PARAGRAPH 52

DELETE AND REPLACE BY: "IT IS GENERAL KNOWLEDGE THAT MANY SOVIET VESSELS (WHICH HAVE THE APPEARANCE OF BEING TRAWLERS), IN PARTICULAR IN THE NORTH ATLANTIC, ARE USED TO MONITOR RADIO AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS, TO CARRY OUT SURVEILLANCE MISSIONS AND TO SPY ON THE ACTIVITIES OF NATO COUNTRIES' NAVAL FORCES. IT IS ESTIMATED THAT IN 1975 ABOUT A HUNDRED LARGE STERN TRAWLERS (OUT CONFIDENTIAL

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OF A TOTAL OF SOME 760) WERE ENGAGED IN SOME MILITARY ACTIVITY AT SEA. IT IS ALSO VERY LIKELY THAT SOME OF THE SUPPORT VESSELS OF THE FISHING FLEET ARE SPECIALLY EQUIPPED TO ASSIST THE SOVIET NAVY IN ITS MISSION. THE BASIC DESIGN OF THE HOLDS OF STERN TRAWLERS IS SUCH THAT THEY CAN BE CONVERTED VERY QUICKLY INTO MINELAYERS, THE LARGER ONES BEING CAPABLE OF CARRYING SEVERAL HUNDRED MINES. SUCH TRAWLERS OPERATING IN THE NORTH ATLANTIC OR IN AREAS CLOSE TO THE SEA LANES USED BY NATO COUNTRIES' SHIPPING COULD, IN TIMES OF SERIOUS TENSION, INTERFERE WITH THIS SHIPPING, ALTHOUGH IT SEEMS MORE LIKELY THAT PURPOSE-BUILT MINE-LAYERS OF THE SOVIET NAVY WOULD BE USED. IN ADDITION, TRAWLERS CAN ALSO BE CONVERTED INTO MINESWEEPERS. THE SOVIET FISHING FLEET CAN BE USED AS AN EXTENSION OF THE SOVIET NAVY ON SPECIFIC MILITARY DUTIES."

PARAGRAPH 54

DELETE FIRST SENTENCE AND REPLACE BY: "FOR ONE THING, THE SOVIET CONSUMER MAY BE RELUCTANT TO INCREASE HIS CONSUMPTION OF MOST OF THE TYPES OF FISH SUPPLIED TO HIM.. IN SECOND SENTENCE, DELETE "THE MORE SO AS".

DELETE LAST SENTENCE AND REPLACE BY: "THIS FAILURE ALSO REFLECTS THE FACT THAT THE SOVIETS ARE CATCHING THE WRONG KIND OF FISH AT LEAST IN TERMS OF SOIVET CONSUMERS' TASTE AND PREFERENCES."

PAGE 29, FOOT NOTE(1)

DELETE AND REPLACE BY: "(1) RUSSIAN FISHERMEN HAVE BEEN ACCUSED OF USING GEAR WHICH EFFECTIVELY "VACUUM-CLEANS" THE SEA-BED, ENDANGERING ALL SPECIES IN THE AREA. IT IS ALSO BELIEVED THAT THE SOVIET FLEET USES ELECTRODES TO ATTRACT CONCENTRATIONS OF FISH AS WELL AS A SUCTION PUMP TO INCREASE ITS CATCH. MOROEVER, THE SOVIET UNION HAS FAILED TO OBSERVE AGREEMENTS RELATIN TO THE MESH SIZES OF FISHING NETS."

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 USNATO 2121

PARAGRAPH 59

FOURTH SENTENCE: DELTE AND REPLACE BY: "THE EEC HAS GIVEN LICENCE TO 42 TRAWLERS TO OPERATE IN ITS REGULATED FISHING ZONE, OF WHICH 27 COULD BE FISHING AT THE SAME TIME".

FIFTH SENTENCE : DELETE.

SIXTH SENTENCE: DELETE AND REPLACE BY: "POLAND AND THE GDR HAVE STARTED NEGOTIATIONS ON RECEIPROCAL FISHING RIGHTS".

PAGE 30 -FOOTNOTE(3): DETE

PARGRAPH 60

DELETE LAST SENTENCE.

PARAGRAPH 61 -PENULTIMATE LINE,
INSTEAD OF "COMMUNIST" READ "COMMUNITY"

PARGRAPH 66

REPLACE LAST SENTENCE BY THE FOLLOWING: "THE SURVEIL-
LANCE VESSELS DISGUISED AS PART OF THE FISHING FLEET, TOGETHER WITH THE TRAWLERS WHICH CAN BE CONVERTED INTO MINELAYERS, IN CLOSE CO-OPERATION WITH THE SOVIET NAVY, COULD REPRESENT A POTENTIAL THREAT TO WESTERN SHIPPING IN TIMES OF SEVERE TENSION
PARAGRAPH 68, PENULTIMATE LINE: "READ "INDIAN SUB-CONTINENT".

IT HAS ALSO BEEN REQUESTED THAT IN THE DOCUMENT THE RAMINING REFERENCES TO THE UK"BACKGROUND BRIEF" SHOULD BE DELETED. (SEE PAGES 15 (FOOTNOTE 2) AND TABLE O, PAGE 24 AT ANNEX I).

ANNEX I, PAGE 8, FIRST LINE (DATA FOR 1956)

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5TH COLUMN: "2,616" SHOULD READ "6,113".

6TH COLUMN: "6,113" SHOULD READ "39".

END TEXT.

3. ACTION REQUESTED:FURTHER COMMENTS, IF ANY, ON REF
C WHICH WILL PROBABLY BE REVIEWED AT APRIL 15 ECONADS MEETING.
STRAUSZ-HUPE

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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